

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11

EUR-25 DRC-01 /186 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4165

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: MARR XO UN UK UR

SUBJECT: EXPERTS REPORT ON INDIAN OCEAN

SUMMARY: SYG ATTEMPTING TO DISCLAIM RESPONSIBILITY FOR
EXPERTS' REPORT ON MILITARY PRESENCE IN INDIAN OCEAN AND
WILL HAVE IT REVISED AND CORRECTED. END SUMMARY

1. DIRECTOR OF UN DISARMAMENT AFFAIRS DIVISION (BJORNERSTEDT)
CALLED USUN TO REQUEST ANY PRELIMINARY US REACTION TO EXPERTS'
REPORT ON IOPZ ISSUE. MISOFF SAID STUDY IS UNDER REVIEW IN
DEPT AND USUN HAD NO OFFICIAL REACTION AS YET BUT UNOFFICIALLY
WE WERE STRUCK BY DISTORTIONS AND ONE-SIDED PRESENTATION.
BJORNERSTEDT SAID THE SYG AND SECRETARIAT WERE ALSO UNHAPPY
WITH REPORT BUT HE ASKED THAT USUN RECALL AMB AMERASINGHE'S STATE-
MENT TO 28TH GA WHEN HE INTRODUCED IOPZ RES WHICH CALLED FOR
THE STUDY. AMERASINGHE SAID: QUOTE ONE THING WE WISH TO
MAKE ABSOLUTELY CLEAR IS THAT WE WOULD NOT HOLD THE
SECRETARY GENERAL AND THE SECRETARIAT RESPONSIBLE IN THE
LEAST DEGREE FOR THE OPINIONS STATED AND THE FACTS
FURNISHED BY EXPERTS AND COMPETENT BODIES. IF ANY MEMBER
HAS ANY DOUBTS ON THAT POINT I SHOULD LIKE TO DISABUSE HIM
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WITH REGARD TO IT. IT IS FOR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO

DECIDE WHAT VALUE SHOULD BE ATTACHED TO ANY PORTIONS OF THE STUDY AND WHAT USE IS TO BE MADE OF IT. UNQUOTE THE SYG'S PRESS SPOKESMAN ALSO STRESSED ON 15 MAY THAT THE REPORT REFLECTS THE VIEWS OF THE THREE EXPERTS. BJOURNERSTEDT SAID THAT HE HOPED WE WOULD UNDERSTAND THE SYG'S DECISION THAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPROPER FOR HIM TO INTERFERE WITH THE FINDINGS OF THE EXPERTS.

2. ON 17 MAY THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT FOR THE SYG WAS READ AT A PRESS BRIEFING. QUOTE "THE SYG'S ATTENTION HAS BEEN DRAWN TO CERTAIN PARTS OF THE FACTURAL REPORT PREPARED BY THREE EXPERTS ON THE GREAT POWERS MILITARY PRESENCE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPHS SIX AND SEVEN OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 3080 AT THE 28TH SESSION (REFERENCE IN REPORT A/AC/159.1). IN VIEW OF THE OBVIOUS NEED TO CLARIFY THE FACTUAL BASIS OF CERTAIN PARTS OF THE REPORT THE SYG HAS MADE ARRANGEMENTS FOR IT TO BE REVIEWED AFTER WHICH THE NECESSARY CORRECTIONS WILL BE PUBLISHED. END QUOTE

3. BJORNERSTEDT TOLD MISOFF TODAY THAT IF US INTENDS TO SUBMIT CORRECTIONS TO SECRETARIAT WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING THEM WITHIN 3 DAYS SO REVISED DOCUMENT CAN BE READY FOR AD HOC COMITE ON 3 JUNE . (COMMENT: AGAIN HE GAVE QUIET, INFORMAL APPEAL THAT U.S. NOT BLAME SYG FOR BUMMER. END COMMENT)

4. UK MISOFF (LOGAN) TOLD USUN THAT THEY HAD NOT DECIDED ABOUT POSSIBLE PROTEST BUT THEIR INITIAL REACTION WAS (A) SECTION III WAS WORST PART BUT SINCE NOT DIRECTED AT THEM THEY FEEL DISARMED AND (B) PERHAPS SYG SHOULD NEVERTHELESS BE CALLED TO TALK SINCE REPORT WAS PUBLISHED AS UN DOCUMENT AND HIS DISCOMFORT MAY PREVENT RECURRENCE. LOGAN ALSO SAID THAT SOV COUNSELLOR TOLD HIM SOVS WERE DEFINITELY GOING TO PROTEST TO SYG AND WERE AWAITING DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS FROM MOSCOW. SCALI

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TAGS: MARR, XO, UK, UR, US, UN
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